

**From:** Ruben Odom jr  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
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**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

I have my opinion short and sweet: I believe that the view that Microsoft has engaged in anti competitive activity is true only because the computer industry has failed to show any motivation what so ever to compete with Microsoft in any form what so ever.

I don't think anything out side of what the has already been ruled on by the supreme court is necessary. But in a desire to see that the playing field be leveled for companies desiring to enter into the OS competition is necessary. I think the current revision allows entry of a company that already has an established reputation--like Sun Micro Systems or AOL-Time Warner. These companies with the improved marketing ability of an operating system can and will pose a significant threat to Microsoft.

I sincerely know that it is wrong and in turn illegal to cause MS to be forced to turn over any source code or be forced to develop any software for any platform that already has plenty of proprietary software ported to it (ie. Linux and Corel). I also know that it is illegal to force MS to support any Middleware company that has enough internet presence and advertising ability to market it's own product instead of being carried by MS to undermine its future operations.

In short, I feel that the 9 rouge states are acting in the interest of lazy free software proponents that want to undermine the software industry, its tough quality standards, and ability to reach the masses with innovative technology to fuel an economy.

Their communist view of free software equaling greater understanding is equal to communism: a very nice dream. It is a common fact that programmers and end user's prefer to use someone else's hard work instead of being concerned with the details.

Another parallel between communism and the free software movement is the fact that they have a demonstrated tendency to keep potential threats of any magnitude from the masses in order to save face and govern over people.

This communist open source threat needs to continue to be checked by our present justice system by allowing the current revision, as of the date of this email, to stand and reject the request of the 9 rouge states.

Thanks for hearing me out

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